

## HUGHES RECEIVES SHANTUNG PROPOSAL

Draft of Japan's Offer, Submitted by Chinese Envoy, Raises Far East Problem.

## U. S. SHOWS CAUTION

May Delay Approval of Settlement Until After Armament Conference.

## NEW TREATIES SOUGHT

Stipulation of Open Door in Mandated Territory Deemed Essential.

Special Despatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.

Washington, D. C., Sept. 10. The Government of the United States is called upon to assume a positive position in the preliminary developments for the conference on armament in connection with the Far Eastern situation.

That necessity was demonstrated today when Dr. Alfred Sze, Chinese Minister in Washington, handed to Secretary of State Hughes the draft of the settlement which Japan proposes to make with China relative to Shantung.

Whether the proposed settlement is satisfactory is not stated, but it was made clear the United States will go slowly in approving any settlement by Japan relative to this disputed question, a caution made the more necessary because of the ultimatum served by the South China Government that it will not recognize settlements made either at the conference, or between Japan and China, without representation of Dr. Sun Yat Sen's Government in Washington.

### Settlement May Be Delayed.

The doubt involved in this problem points to the extreme likelihood that the Shantung settlement will await the action of the conference itself.

Another suggestion of the awakening native interest of the United States in Far Eastern questions was the despatch of John K. Caldwell to China, where he will act as observer for the United States at the capital of the Eastern Sierran Government. Mr. Caldwell is based at Kobe. His mission follows the report of Dr. Albert at China, which has been published. The relations which Japan means to maintain with the Chinese Government will be of keen interest to this Government, which has a mind the maintenance of the territorial integrity of Russia.

This demonstration of active interest in Eastern Siberian affairs has its bearing upon the Japanese decision to remain in possession of northern Saghalien, here they have been since the massacre at Nicolaievsk, where Japanese soldiers were killed by Soviet soldiers, occupation of this portion of Saghalien Japan has never been approved by the United States.

The Japanese proposal to return Shantung to China before the conference has been anticipated ever since Japan, in a letter of acceptance, suggested that matters which might be regarded as accomplished facts or which were of peculiar interest to two countries involved would be eliminated from the agenda of the conference. Shantung, it is recalled, would present a weak spot in the armor of Japan, which aims to come into conference with an attitude of at least apparent desire to lay its cards openly upon the table. It has been suggested from time to time that the return of Shantung would be accompanied with provisions which would ensure Japanese control of the economic affairs of the province, and it is known that in the Orient economic and political control are synonymous terms.

### Attitude of South China.

It is also recalled that it was the president of China who signed the

twenty-one demands, and the charges are made by the South China Government that the Peking Government has secret agreements with Japan which have not been made public.

The South China Government wants these agreements upon the table and not excepted on the ground they are of special interest to the two countries involved. It is also claimed that Japan, within a comparatively recent time, has loaned \$20,000,000 to the Peking Government.

Another feature of the situation which promotes the United States Government to caution is the data which the State Department has on the so-called Cassell agreement in Kwangtung province, the seat of the Canton Government. Chinese agents charge that this agreement furnishes another Shantung situation, and that while Japan is cementing its economic control of the northern province of Shantung, Great Britain is doing the same thing in the province of Kwangtung.

The Cassell agreement was a concession made to an English concern, giving exclusive rights to construct railroads and develop mines in that immensely rich province. British control of Hong Kong, the harbor of Kwangtung province, it is believed, would cement British control of the province if the agreement should be approved. It was made with the interim Government which lasted in Canton for a short time when Dr. Sun was driven out of power by the militarists. It has not yet been approved by either the Canton or the Peking governments and the Canton Government has repaid the original hundred thousand dollars granted for

the concession, although it never received a cent of the money.

The situation in both Kwangtung and Shantung has an intimate bearing upon the maintenance of the American policy of the "open door," which this Government will insist upon as a general policy everywhere, and especially in regard to independent countries like China and in mandated territories.

In relation to this policy in regard to mandated territories it became known that the United States is looking forward to negotiation of treaties with the allied Powers which will stipulate this condition as to mandated regions.

The necessity of a treaty arrangement is regarded as essential in view of the differences that have arisen. The United States will insist that mandated territories be regarded as trusts for civilization and not as annexed territories and will continue to claim that it should not be placed at a disadvantage because it entered the war so far as its relations to the allied Powers are concerned.

The entire question of mandates is certain to come before the Washington conference, and it is expected that agreements reached there will be followed by the treaty stipulations suggested.

It is not expected there will be vital objection to this arrangement from the allied Powers which have hailed completion of the mandate arrangements.

### 14 INCH SNOW IN CANADA.

MOOREHEAD, Saskatchewan, Sept. 10.—A heavy blizzard swept over Swift Current and the surrounding territory today. Menace telegraphic advice from

that city to-night said that at 9 o'clock this morning the snow was fourteen inches deep on the level. Snow ploughs were called upon in an attempt to keep the streets clear.

## STRAUSS DENIES DISPARAGING U. S.

Didn't Say One Month Here Was Enough.

Richard Strauss, through his American manager, yesterday denied disparaging remarks on America attributed to him in a magazine. Milton Diamond, who has arranged for an American tour here of the composer and conductor, said Strauss had been quoted as saying that one month of his life was sufficient to give to America.

Strauss's message, made public by Mr. Diamond, was cabled from Garmsch, Bavaria, and said: "Have given no interview. Alleged statements maliciously garbled and contrary to my opinions. Looking forward with pleasure and interest to American visit. Kindest greetings."

Mr. Diamond said that Strauss's contract with him extends from the end of October until January, when he gives his farewell concert in New York. Strauss cherishes memories of his first visit to America, and is eager to come again, he continued. "To me he expressed his delight at the popularity of his great works over here, and he watched musical development in America with keen interest."

The composer will sail for New York on the Adriatic on October 15.



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